

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - TRAINING AND EVALUATION - FAST-TRACK  
PRINCIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Introduced By: Senators Metts, Goodwin, Gallo, Quezada, and Pearson

Date Introduced: May 08, 2019

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-11 of the General Laws entitled "Certification of Teachers [See  
2 Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended by adding  
3 thereto the following section:

4 **16-11-9. Fast-track principal certification program.**

5 (a) The department of elementary and secondary education (the "department") shall  
6 establish a fast-track principal certification program.

7 (b) The fast-track principal certification program shall include, but need not be limited to,  
8 the following courses:

9 (1) School finance;

10 (2) School law; and

11 (3) Program evaluation, including data analysis.

12 (c) Participants will earn a principal certification after successful completion of the  
13 courses required in § 16-11-9(b), and successful completion of the following two (2)  
14 requirements:

15 (1) A year-long internship shadowing a principal in the district where the participant is  
16 currently employed; and

17 (2) Leading a district- or school-wide initiative.

18 (d) To be eligible for admission into the fast-track principal certification program, an

1 applicant shall:

2 (1) Have a minimum of ten (10) years' experience as a teacher rated "effective" or "highly  
3 effective";

4 (2) Have a recommendation from the superintendent(s) of the local education agency  
5 (LEA) or agencies in which the applicant worked as a teacher previously, or is working currently;

6 (3) Have a record of consistent leadership within an LEA, demonstrated through serving  
7 as a facilitator of professional development, a dean, a district coach, a department chair, or in  
8 another leadership position within a school or LEA; and

9 (4) Possess a master's degree or higher.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO EDUCATION - TRAINING AND EVALUATION - FAST-TRACK  
PRINCIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

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- 1           This act would allow teachers to obtain certification as a principal in an expedited period
- 2 of time.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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